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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Rumania

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ DATE: 25X1X6
 INFO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Resistance Groups in Northwestern Banat
 and Western Transylvania

DIST. 14 November 1946

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This document is hereby restricted to
 CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
 letter of 16 October 1946 from the
 Director of Central Intelligence to

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 SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN
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1. The "Voice of Blood", a military unit composed of deserters from the Rumanian Army who fought the Germans after 23 August 1944, is based in the western Bihar mountains in the general vicinity of the Royal estate of Saversin. The Groza Government estimates the effective strength at the equivalent of three regiments. The leaders of the group, however, place its strength at from 10,000 to 15,000 men. The group, which is strongly armed and controls the area, opposes the present Government and the Russians. These troops are reported to have deserted because they did not wish to fight along with the Russians although they are not pro-German. The local population cooperates with and supports this group. These resistance troops have once or twice captured entire Russian supply convoys, and Soviet forces are reported no longer to use subsidiary highways in the area. War Minister Vasiliu-Rascanu, apparently acting under Soviet orders, unsuccessfully tried to clear this mountain region with Government troops.
2. Leaders of the "Voice of Blood" have stated their willingness to act at the King's command and expressed their loyalty to the Monarch.
3. The National Peasant Party group in northern Severin County, which has many young men as members, is based at Lugoj. Its estimated strength in this area is 6,000. The leader, prior to his arrest, was Ilie Lazar, a prominent member of the National Peasant Party in Transylvania.
4. The Saxon and Swabian group is also located in northern Severin County. It has approximately 200 members of the German minority in Rumania who escaped Soviet deportation.
5. The Hatzeg group, composed of German fugitives and members of the German minority in Rumania, is based in the Hatzeg mountains. Its leader is Count Kendeffy, a local landlord. The strength and equipment of this group is not known. Reports have been received that the British have contacted this group.
6. A close to the Director of the King's own information service states that General Adea, now under arrest in connection with resistance activities, told the Sigurantza (Rumanian Security Police) that the King knew much about resistance group activities. According to [REDACTED] the Sigurantza has compiled an extensive dossier on the King's relations with such groups for possible use against him, should the Russians and the Groza Government so decide.

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7. At present it is impossible to estimate the number of resistance groups in Rumania. Probably at least 50 organizations and informal committees (composed usually of former Army officers) exist. Many are unimportant and without influence.
8. There exists, however, a countrywide military organization with one or two leaders appointed for each principal city in Rumania except Bucharest which has three. All local leaders are prepared to organize their forces "at the proper time". The strength and equipment of this organization is unknown and as yet it is impossible to evaluate its importance.

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